

RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY COLLECTIONS

Vol. XXIII

JULY, 1930

No. 3



THE NEW ENGLAND FLAG OF 1686

From original painting in Lieutenant Graydon's manuscript flag book
in the Pepysian Library, Magdalene College, Cambridge.

By special permission

See Page 90

Issued Quarterly

68 WATERMAN STREET, PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

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ADDISON P. MUNROE, *President* GILBERT A. HARRINGTON, *Treasurer*
HOWARD W. PRESTON, *Secretary* HOWARD M. CHAPIN, *Librarian*

The Society assumes no responsibility for the statements or the opinions of contributors.

The Identification of Ship Models

CLARKSON A. COLLINS, JR.

The identification of sailor-made ship models often presents problems which are interesting to investigate but, alas, sometimes difficult of solution. This is due to the habit which such makers had of frequently giving a model a name other than that of the vessel which it actually represented.

Negative evidence regarding such models can usually be obtained with a slight amount of research. That is, it is easy to demonstrate the fact that the model does not represent such a vessel as the name on its stern would seem to indicate. Positive evidence, however, proving that the model depicts a certain vessel is frequently difficult, and often impossible, to obtain.

A case in point is that of a beautiful model of the famous clipper ship *Hornet* which I obtained on the Cape some years ago. The maker of the model, a Capt. Doane, had been first mate of the *Hornet* and was living at the

time I first saw the model, although nearly ninety years old.

I asked him why, since the model was of the *Hornet*, she bore on her stern the name "Bonna Dea." His reply was that his two nieces were greatly interested in a beautiful Egyptian Goddess and asked him to name the model after her. The name of the *Egyptian* Goddess was "Bonna Dea."

It is obvious that in this case, lacking personal contact with Capt. Doane, it would have been impossible to identify the model.

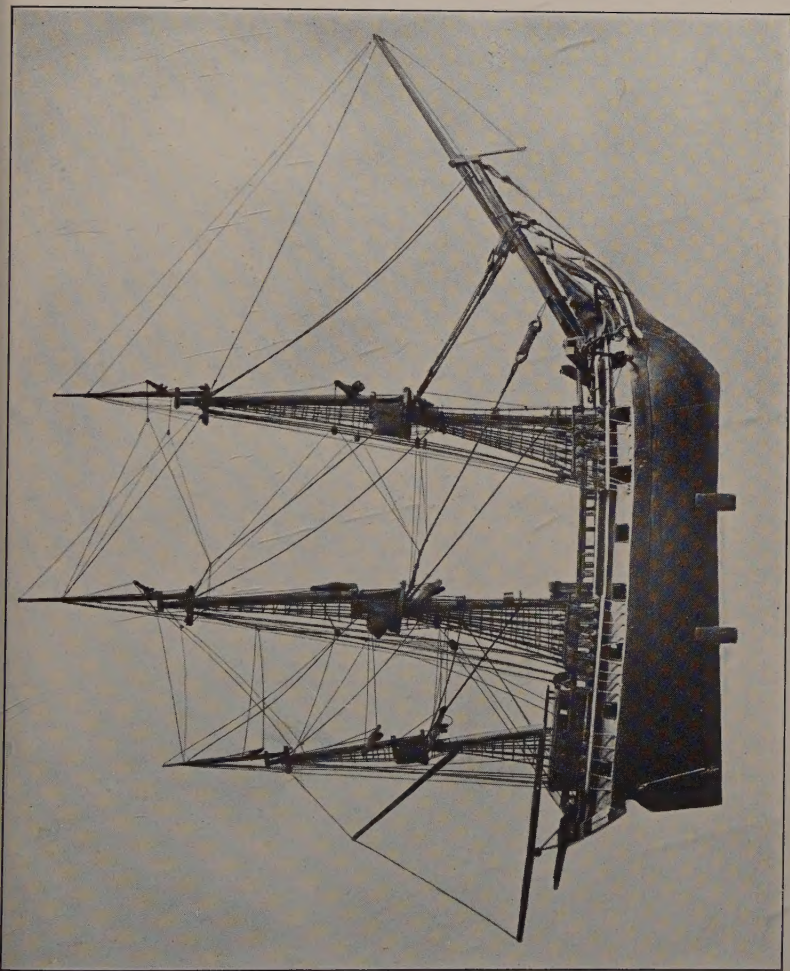
Another instance is found in the model of the *Ann and Hope*. This model for a century or more was berthed in the old Brown and Ives building at 50 South Main Street.

Fairly authentic tradition placed the model as the *Ann and Hope*—the first vessel of that name, not the second. Tonnage, rig, number of guns, figurehead; all made the identification practically positive. But on her stern the model bears the inscription, *Embargo of Providence*. I was not satisfied regarding the identity of the model until exhaustive research among Historical Society records established the fact that no vessel named *Embargo* was ever registered from the Port of Providence.

Conjecture regarding the naming of this model discovers an explanation. The *Ann and Hope* was wrecked on Block Island not long before the *Embargo* Act went into effect. This act undoubtedly gave the sailor who made the model ample opportunity for his work, and in a spirit of irony he christened her "*Embargo*."

Our museums, at least such of them as boast marine collections, are so apt to be inaccurate in the descriptions of their models that it is not surprising to find that in years gone by the Historical Society accepted too confidently the name on the fine old "74" which stands in the gallery, and labeled her "*The Frigate Washington*."

As a matter of fact, she is not a frigate but a seventy-four gun ship of the line. Furthermore, there has never



MODEL OF SHIP "ANN AND HOPE," OF PROVIDENCE, 1797-1806, BEARING THE NAME
"EMBARGO" ON HER STERN

Owned by Clarkson A. Collins, Jr.

been a vessel in the U. S. Navy, nor an American privateer, which this model could represent, if we consider the name on her stern.

It is true that there have been eleven Washingtons, seven General Washingtons, and six Lady Washingtons flying the American flag; all of them during the Revolutionary period.

The largest of them, however, was the 32 gun ship Washington which was purchased in Philadelphia in 1776, never received her armament, and was burnt by the British in Delaware Bay in 1778. The others were all smaller vessels. Some were ship rigged but the majority were brigs, cutters, or sloops.

There was a privateer, General Washington, of Providence, ship rigged, carrying 18 guns and 120 men, and commanded by Silas Talbot. In the case of this vessel I should say that if the armament of the model agreed with that of the ship itself, the difference between the names would not be of great importance. But the difference between 18 guns and 74 cannot be reconciled.

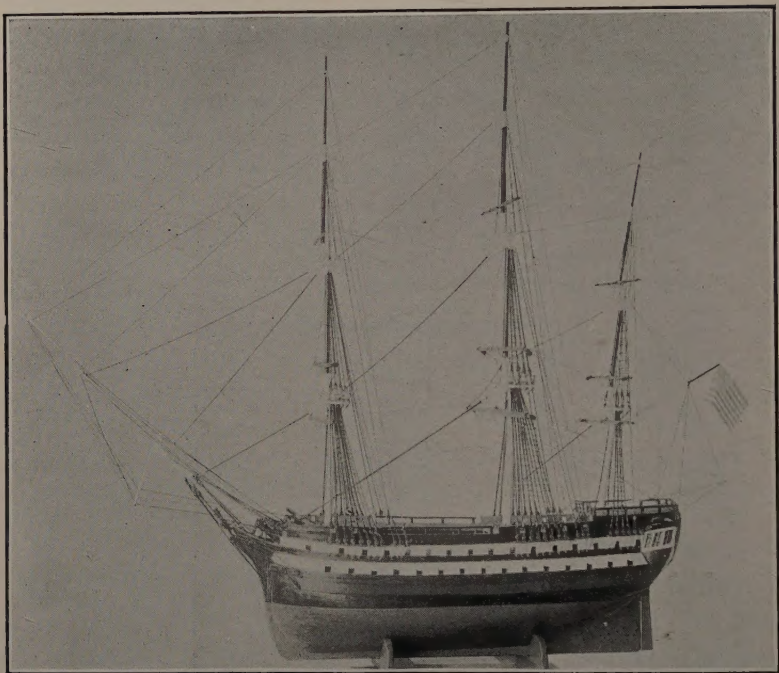
The probabilities are that the Historical Society model represents one of the ten "74's" laid down between 1815 and 1818. Only six of these vessels were completed. These were the Franklin, Columbus, Ohio, North Carolina, Delaware, and Vermont.

Aside from our one famous, or rather infamous, 120 gun ship, the Vermont is as perfect an example as one could find of what happens when politicians begin to play with the Navy. This vessel, laid down in 1815, was not launched until 1848; thirty-three years to complete a ship which should have been off the ways in two years at the most. During this period she was, of course, giving employment, when needed, to loyal supporters of this, that, and the other political party. What an ignoble fate for one of the most noble creations of man! Let us hope that the Historical Society model does not perpetuate the poor Vermont.



MODEL OF SO-CALLED "WASHINGTON"

In the Society's Museum.



MODEL OF SO-CALLED "WASHINGTON"

In the Society's Museum.

Ancestry of John Greene of Warwick

In the "Greenes of Rhode Island" compiled by Mrs. Louise Brownell Clarke from the manuscripts of Major-General George S. Greene, a pedigree is given that commences with a certain Robert Greene who appears as of Gillingham, in the county of Dorset, in the subsidy of 1543; and it is stated on page 38 that Robert Greene owned and resided on his estate at Bowridge Hill in the parish of Gillingham. This statement has no record of

evidence to support it, other than the mere fact that Robert Greene was taxed in the subsidy of Gillingham. On page 736 of the same volume under a heading entitled "Latest Research in England" the compiler of the book states that she doubts whether Peter Greene of Bowridge, the testator of 1583, and the known brother of Richard Greene, the ancestor of the Rhode Island family, was the son of Robert Greene.

Examination of the parish register of Gillingham (it is a very large parish) shows that the name Greene in the sixteenth and early seventeenth century was very widely spread in the parish and there are a great many Greenes whose relationship with each other cannot be proved. Several years ago I was fortunate enough to secure copies of the Gillingham Court Rolls preserved in the Rylands Library at Manchester, which contain many entries relating to the Greenes of that parish. The earliest mention being a "J. Greene" in the reign of Edward the Fourth. The most important item in these records is one relating to jurymen and shows that on the twentieth of December in the twenty-fifth year of Henry the Eighth (1533-4), "Willemus Grene de Powrygge" was a jurymen. "Powrygge" is evidently Bowridge, the estate which is known to have belonged to that particular branch of the Gillingham Greenes from whom the Rhode Island family descended. It seems, therefore, highly likely that Peter Greene, the testator of 1583, and his brother Richard Greene, who was the grandfather of John Greene of Providence, were the children not of Robert Greene of the 1543 subsidy but of the above William Greene, for we find them owning and residing at Bowridge Hill where William Greene was living in 1533-4. It would appear, therefore, that the line of descent of the Rhode Island family is not Robert,⁽¹⁾ Richard,⁽²⁾ Richard,⁽³⁾ John,⁽⁴⁾ but William,⁽¹⁾ Richard,⁽²⁾ Richard,⁽³⁾ John.⁽⁴⁾

G. ANDREWS MORIARTY, JR.

Theophilus Whaley

By referring to Austin's "Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island," it will be seen that a somewhat mysterious person named Theophilus Whaley came to the South County from Virginia and there has been much speculation regarding him. Today in going over the records of the county of Rappahannock, (extinct since 1692 when it became Essex Co.) I found:

Transcript of Rappahannock records in Virginia State Archives.

Vol VI (81) Thomas Gouldman of Settingburne parish in Rapp. Co. gent, and Richard Cawthorne of same, planter, and Theophilus Whale and Daniel Swellivant both of Farnham parish, Rapp. Co. division of a tract owned by them and grant of 500 acres from it to Cawthorne. 20 Aug. 1679.

Vol. VI (92) Thomas Gouldman of Sittingburne parish, Rapp. Co. to Theophilus Whale of Farnham, planter, 400 acres at Hodgkins Creek out of 674 acres that they owned there. 7 Jan 1679/80.

Theophilus Whale conveys this right to William Seale. 8 Jan 1679/80.

Vol VI (103) Indenture 18 Feb 1679/80 Theophilus Whale of Rapp. Co. planter, and Robert Beverley of Middlesex, gent. Whale conveys all his lands in Rapp. Co. Va. including the land where he now lives "or lately lived" to Beverley and made his loving friend Mr. Thomas George of Rapp. Co. his attorney to acknowledge and confirm the same 18 Feb. 1679/80. Signed Theophilus Wealle.

This last looks like a "selling out" before he went to Rhode Island. I send you this as it locates Whalley in Virginia before he came to Rhode Island and shows he was not a "mysterious stranger," but a well known planter of Rappahannock County.

G. ANDREWS MORIARTY, JR.

The Grammar School at Brown University in 1772

Contributed by ROBERT FRANCIS SEYBOLT

The following announcement, published in the *Massachusetts Gazette and Boston News Letter*, July 30, 1772, recalls an important, but little known adjunct of Brown during the early years of her history:

Whereas several Gentlemen have requested me to take and educate their Sons: This may inform them, as others disposed to put their Children under my Care, that the Latin School is now removed, and set up in the College Edifice; where proper Attendance shall be given, by a Master duly qualified, and those found to be the most effectual Methods to obtain a competent Knowledge of Grammar, steadily pursued. At the same Time spelling, reading, and speaking English with Propriety will be particularly attended to. Any who choose their Sons should board in Commons, may be accomodated at the same Rate with the Students, Six Shillings per Week being the Price. And I flatter myself, that such Attention will be paid their Learning and Morals, as will entirely satisfy all who may send their Children. All Books for the School, as well as the classical Authors read in College, may be had at the lowest Rate of the Subscriber.

Providence, July 10, 1772.

James Manning.

In establishing a grammar school at the college, President Manning followed the practice of his Alma Mater, Princeton.



PORTRAIT OF GOVERNOR JAMES FENNER, FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE RHODE
ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, PAINTED BY FRANCIS ALEXANDER

Given to the Society by Mr. Henry D. Sharpe.



PORTRAIT OF MRS. JAMES FENNER, PAINTED BY FRANCIS ALEXANDER

Given to the Society by Mr. Henry D. Sharps.

The Shipping Book of Arthur Fenner & Company, 1742

The shipping book of Arthur Fenner and Company of Providence was recently given to the Society by Mrs. Elizabeth Ladd McConnell. It throws light on the early maritime commerce of Providence during a period in which the source material is scanty. An abstract of these records follows.

ABSTRACTS

Arthur Fenner and George Browne Esqr. & Company and all of Providence in New England. Shipped on Ship Providence, Captain Jonathan Sheldon, Master, bound for Suraname.

thirty Nine Horses, Eighty firkins of Butter, Sixty Six Barrels of flower, four hundred and Sixteen Bushels of Oats, Eighteen Shorts, fourteen thousand two hundred and fifty Shingles, 4m Staves, Six Barrels Potatoes, Six Barrels of Apples, 3900 Hoops; 84 Water Hhds, 4 Barrels Pork, 28 Barrels of Beef, 10 m of Bricks; 800 . . of Bread; 8500 feet of Boards, 8 hhds. Salt fish, 4 Barrel Alewives, 1½ Barrel Mackrel, 1 Firkin of Hogsfat and one hhd of Corne. Dated in Providence aforesaid this 19th Day of October A:D: 1745.

Arthur Fenner and Company. Shipped on Ship Arthur, Ebenezer Hill, Master, bound for Jamaica.

18 hhd. of Dry fish, Seven barrels of pork, forty Seven bbrs of beef, thirty bbrs of flower, four bbrs of Pickel fish, Six Cagg of tonnngs, 2 firkin of hogs fatt, Seven bbrs of sider, 450 bunches of onions, 1034 weight of Chees. Consigned to James Mitchell. Dated in Providence this 28th Day of Decr Ad 1747.

Arthur Fenner and Company. Shipped on Ship Prince William, Jonathan Sheldon, Master, bound for Barbadoes.

29 hhd Dry fish, 50 bbrs of Mackrell, 59 bbrs of Beef, 9 bbrs of Pork, 10 bbrs of flower, 5 bbrs firkin of Tallow, 4 bbrs of oyle, 32 thousand of Lumber, 19 Horses, 11 hogs, 9 Cask of Bread, thirty four hhd of Tobacco, 44 new water hhds, three HHd of Indian Corn, 199 bushell of oats.

Dated in Providence Decbr 10th A D 1748

Arthur Fenner and Company. Shipped on Snoe Dolphin, Thomas Manchester, Master, bound for Jamaica.

fourteen Horses

Arthur Fenner and Company. Shipped on Ship Arthur, Joseph Cozzens, Master, bound for Jamacia.

Thirteen Horses, 20 hhds of Dry fish, 40 brs of Mackrell, 37 bbrs. of Beef, 7 bbrs of pork, Six firkins of butter, 8 bbrs of Sider, 11 Desks, one book Cases, 5500 of hoops, 3100 Staves, 1239 foot of bords and Ninety one New hogsheads.

Dated in Providence Decbr 27th 1748.

Arthur Fenner and Company. Shipped on Sloop Defiance, Captain Simeon Hunt, Master, bound for Boston. 4—hogsheads and five Tierces of Sugar.

Arthur Fenner and Company merchants in providence. Shipped on Brigg Prince William, Captain George Jackson, Master, bound for Surrinam.

25238 Feet of Boards 4900 of Hoops 5600½ of Staves 13600 Shingles 12000 Bricks, 80 Barrells of Flower, 55 Barrells of Beefe, 6 Barrells Pork, 1000 of Bread, 36 hogsheads and one Tierce Tobacko, 6 hogsheads Dry Fish, 8 barll oyle, 8 firkins Butter, 1 hhd Rum, 800 Bunches onyons 115 Bushll Corn, 50 Bushll oats, 27 Horses, 31 Sheep, 9 Shoats, 62 water hogsheads.

Dated in Providence this 19th Day of august A D 1749.

Arthur Fenner &c company merchts. Shipped on Snoe providence, Captain George Jackson, Master, bound for Barbados

20 Thousand hoops, 14 thousand Boards, 6 thousand Staves, 30 Barrells Beefe, 4 Barrells of Oyle, Six Barrells of poark, 20 Barrells of Flower, 11400 Bricks, 37 Casks of Tobacco, 21 Shoats, 100 Bushell of Corn, 70 Bushell of Oats, 17 horses, 38 water casks, 20 hogsheds of Fish, 4 Tierces Bread.

Dated in providence the 24 Day of November 1750

Arthur Fenner & Company merchants. Shipped on Snoe Dolphin, Captain George Jackson, Master, bound for Surinam.

To 4800 Staves/, 3500 $\frac{3}{4}$ of Hoopes/ 11500 Bricks/ 12259 board, To 37 Barrells Flower to 17 Barrells beaf To 4 Detto of Poark To 9 Horses To 9c:3q:811 of bread To 11537 of Tobacco to 3 Bushell Pease To 101 Bushell of oates to 30 watter Cask To Hogd West India rum and one Thousand Dollars

Dated in Providence the 22th Day of April 1751

Arthur Fenner and compa owners of the Snow Dolphin. Shipped on Ship Dolphin, Captain George Jackson, Master, bound for Barbadoes.

thirteen Horses, 11506 feet Boards, 5300 Hoops, three thousand Nine Hundred and $\frac{1}{2}$ of Staves, 1 Barrell Tallow, 3 bbs. Turpentine, 1 bb. Tarr, 25 half Barrells Pork, 28 bbs. beeff 5 bbs pork 32 water Casks 8 Casks bread, 140 Bushells Oats, 2 Casks peas—1 Barrell Oyl

Dated in providence April 13th 1752

Arthur Fenner Esqr and Company all of Providence in the County of Providence in New England Merchants—Shipped on Ship Arthur, Joseph Arnold, Master, bound for Barbadoes.

Thirty Eight Thousand Eight hundred and Twenty Hoops, Four thousand three hundred and fifty of Hogs-

head Staves, Eleven thousand Bricks, Eleven Water Hogsheads, one Desk, Nine hundred feet of Pine Boards, Eighteen Barrels of Beef, four Barrell of Pork and Ten Barrels of Flowers.

Consigned to Mr. James Fenner of Providence Merchant. Dated in Providence this fifth Day of February Anno Dom 1749/

Arthur Fenner and Company Shipped on Ship Dolphin, Thomas Manchester, Master, bound for Surinam.

8 m 900½ Bricks 10 m 640 feet Boards 5 m 150 Staves 4 m 780 Hoops 2 feet of heading 24 Barll Flower 51 Brll Beaf 24 Hogsh Tobacco, 9 Tearces Do 65 Firkins butter 2 hhds rum 1 Firkin Tallow 1 Box Candles 1 Brll Peas 8 Barll Bread 13 Boxes of pama sitty* Candles ½ Barll rum 2 Barll pork 14 Horses 194 Bushell oats, one Thousand shingles 1500 roope onyons 36 water hhds. Dated in Providence September 3d 1753

Mr. Arthur Fenner & Company. Shipped on Brigantine Providence, Captain William Tillinghast, Master, bound for Suriname

48 hhs three Teares and 1 bbs of tobacco 64 firkins of butter 60 bbs of flower 21 bbs of Pickled fish 21 bbs of Salt 12 bbs & half beef 2 bbs of Pork 5 boxes of Candels 1 Bbs of Mackrells 17307 Shingles 5144 hhd Staves 3840 Hoops 11 bbs of bread and thirty four horses; and goes consigned seven eight parts to y sd Master and other eight part to Thomas Fenner a Passenger on board said brigantine

Dated in Providence in New England this 27th Day of July A D 1743

Messrs: Arthur Fenner, Joseph Sheldon, Charles Tillinghast & William Tillinghast of Providence in New England. Shipped on Ship Providence, Captain William Tillinghast, Master, bound for Barbadoes.

*Spermaceti.

Nineteen Horses; 7406 Hhd Hoops; 17930 Hhd Staves; 1355 Shingles; thirty one Quintals of Salt fish; 18 Barrells of Alewives two Barrells of Tallow, and three Shoates.

Twenty Seven Caggs of oyster

Dated in Providence in New England this 8th Day of January Anno Domini 1742/3.

Arthur Fenner & Company. Shipped on Snow Dolphin, Captain Joseph Owens, Master, bound for Antigua.

Thirty Eight Barrells Mackrel Nine Casks Rice Eleven Bar Beef Two Barrells Poork Seven Thousand Seven hundred Shingles Four Thousand three hundred & Forty one Staves Eight Boxes Spermicity Candles Forty one Thousand nine hundred & forty hoops

Dated in Providence May 8, 1756.

The eleven desks and 1 book case mentioned in 1748 and the one desk in 1749 are unusual exports from Rhode Island. Were these desks by any chance some of the famous block front desks made by Goddard* at Newport?

Notes

Three new biographies of Anne Hutchinson have been published this year. One was mentioned in our last issue. The others are *An American Jezebel*, *The Life of Anne Hutchinson* by Helen Augur, a book of 320 pages published by Brentano; and *Anne Hutchinson* by Edith Curtis, 122 pages, published by Washburn and Thomas.

Lettres d'Axel de Fersen, published in Paris in 1929, is of considerable local interest, for fourteen of the letters, dated from Aug. 5, 1780, to Aug. 17, 1781, and comprising 50 printed pages, were written at Newport, R. I.

*See article on Goddard in *The Antiquarian*, February, 1927.

The Old Stone Bank History of Rhode Island is a book of 119 pages, which is a reprint in book form of the series of historical leaflets that have been issued in connection with the bank's radio talks.

Mr. Henry D. Sharpe has recently presented to the Society four chairs that formerly belonged to Governor James Fenner, the first President of the Society.

A copy of the first issue of the *Juvenile Gazette*, which was published in November, 1819, has been given to the Society by Sylvester M. Snow.

The Coggeshalls in America, a genealogy of the descendants of John Coggeshall of Newport, by Charles Pierce Coggeshall and Thellwell Russell Coggeshall (Boston 1930) is a book of 395 pages.

The Star of La Rochelle, being the true story of the Life of Esther Leroy, wife of Gabriel Bernon, 1652-1710, by Elizabeth Nicholson White is a book of 130 pages, printed in Providence in 1930.

The following lectures have been given before the Society.

January 14. The English Homes of the New England Settlers by Capt. G. Andrews Moriarty, Jr.

February 16. Forty Years of Rhode Island Art by Sydney R. Burleigh.

March 9. Early American Music by John B. Archer, assisted by Ada Holding Miller, Soprano.

April 8. Rhode Island's Early Defenders by Brig. Gen. John J. Richards.

Three special committees have been appointed this year.
The Entertainment Committee:

Mrs. Edward L. Johnson, *Chairman*

Mrs. Charles D. Cook

Mrs. Clarkson A. Collins, Jr.

The Committee on the Portrait Gallery:

Dana Rice, *Chairman*
 Sydney R. Burleigh
 Edwin A. Burlingame

The Committee to consider preliminary plans for the observance of the 300th anniversary of the Founding of Providence:

Mrs. Herbert G. Beede	Rev. Lorenzo C. McCarthy
Chester W. Barrows	Mrs. Charles H. Merriman
Howard M. Chapin	George L. Miner
J. Jerome Hahn	Mrs. Edward S. Moulton
John W. Haley	Addison P. Munroe
Charles Warren Lippitt	Arthur L. Philbrick

The following persons have been admitted to membership in the Society:

Mrs. Gorton T. Lippitt	Mr. Herbert O. White
Mrs. William O. Todd	Mr. Louis W. Downes
Mr. Walter F. Farrell	Mrs. Livingston Ham
Mrs. Henry S. Lanpher	Miss Louise Richardson
Mrs. Charles O. Read	Mrs. Peter G. Gerry
Mr. David C. Adelman	Mr. Frederick V. Waterman
Mrs. C. Prescott Knight	Mrs. William E. Hoy
Mr. George P. Newell	Mrs. Addison P. Munroe
Miss Ada Almy	Mrs. Everard Appleton
Mrs. George S. Bullock	Miss Irene B. Butler
Mrs. Maurice K. Washburn	Mr. Elmer D. Nickerson
Mrs. William C. H. Brand	Mrs. Frank Nichols Phillips
Mrs. Austen G. Fox	Mrs. Stacy Tolman
Miss Hattie B. Barns	Mrs. Paul A. Merriam
Mrs. Albert G. Harkness	Mr. Alden L. Littlefield
Mr. Donald S. Babcock	Mr. James F. Phetteplace
Mrs. James F. Phetteplace	Rev. Lorenzo C. McCarthy
Miss Edith R. Danielson	Mr. Frederick A. Paige
Mr. Fred Morton Dixon, Jr.	Mrs. Edward W. Blodgett
Mr. Jonathan F. Comstock	Mrs. Henry A. Whitmarsh
Mrs. William L. Mauran	Mrs. Edward S. Clark
Mrs. Howard G. Hull	Miss Sarah Dyer Barnes
Mr. George Paul Slade	Mrs. C. Prescott Knight, Jr.
Prof. Albert K. Potter	Mr. Clarence E. Peirce
Mrs. Joseph H. Regester	E. D. Chesebro, M.D.

List of Active Members of the Rhode Island Historical Society.

Hon. Joshua M. Addeman
Mr. David C. Adelman
Mr. Frederick W. Aldred
Mr. Charles T. Aldrich
Mr. Edward K. Aldrich, Jr.
Miss Lucy T. Aldrich
Hon. Richard S. Aldrich
Mr. Francis O. Allen
Mr. Frederick W. Allen
Mr. Howard V. Allen
Mr. Philip Allen
Mrs. Frederick Allien
Miss Ada Almy
Miss Anna L. Andrews
Mr. Walter F. Angell
Mrs. Everard Appleton
Mr. Arthur H. Armington
Miss Maude E. Armstrong
Mrs. Edward E. Arnold
Mr. Frederick W. Arnold
Mr. James H. Arthur
Mr. Albert Babcock
Mr. Donald S. Babcock
Mr. Albert A. Baker
Mrs. Charles K. Baker
Mr. Harvey A. Baker
Mr. J. Willard Baker
Miss Mary H. Balch
Mr. Luther C. Baldwin
Mrs. Walter S. Ball
Mr. Frederick D. Ballou
Rev. Clarence A. Barbour
Harry Lee Barnes, M.D.
Miss Sarah Dyer Barnes
Mr. Josiah M. Barney
Miss Hattie B. Barns

Hon. Chester W. Barrows
Miss Mildred E. Bassett
W. Lincoln Bates, M.D.
Mr. Earl G. Batty
Mrs. Daniel Beckwith
Mrs. Herbert G. Beede
Mr. Horace G. Belcher
Mr. Horatio E. Bellows
Mrs. Edward W. Blodgett
G. Alder Blumer, M.D.
Mr. J. J. Bodell
Mrs. Theodore P. Bogert
Harold Bowditch, M.D.
Mrs. Charles Bradley
Mr. Claude R. Branch
Mr. John B. Branch
Mrs. William C. H. Brand
Miss Alice Brayton
Miss Elizabeth H. Brayton
Miss Ida F. Bridgham
Mr. Herbert O. Brigham
Miss Eva St. C. Brightman
Mrs. Clarence A. Brouwer
Mr. Clarence Irving Brown
Mr. Cyrus P. Brown
Mr. Frank Hail Brown
Mrs. Frank Hail Brown
Miss Isabel R. Brown
Mr. John Nicholas Brown
Mr. Wilbur D. Brown
Mr. Alfred S. Brownell
Mr. Edward C. Bucklin
Mr. Harris H. Bucklin
Miss Clara Buffum
Mr. Frederick H. Buffum
Mrs. William P. Buffum
Mr. Henry Buker

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Mr. George Rothwell Burgess
Mr. Sydney R. Burleigh
Mr. Edwin A. Burlingame
Mr. Raymond Buss
Mr. Alfred T. Butler
Miss Irene B. Butler
Mr. G. Edward Buxton
Mr. John H. Cady
Mrs. Charles A. Calder
Miss Helen G. Calder
Frank T. Calef, M.D.
Mr. Herbert C. Calef
Mr. Walter R. Callender
Mrs. Walter R. Callender
Mrs. George H. Capron
Mr. Thomas B. Card
Mrs. George W. Carr
Mr. Edward Carrington
Mr. William Carroll
Miss Anna H. Chace
Mr. Malcolm G. Chace
Mrs. Everitte S. Chaffee
Mr. Robert F. Chambers
Mr. Arthur D. Champlin
Mr. George B. Champlin
Mr. George Allen Chandler
Charles V. Chapin, M.D.
Mrs. Charles V. Chapin
Mr. Howard M. Chapin
Mrs. Howard M. Chapin
Mr. William P. Chapin
Mr. Frederic L. Chase
Julian A. Chase, M.D.
E. D. Chesebro, M.D.
Mr. Albert W. Claflin
Mrs. Edward S. Clark
Mrs. Henry G. Clark
Mr. Prescott O. Clarke
Prof. Theodore Collier
Mrs. Clarkson A. Collins, Jr.
Mr. James C. Collins
Mr. Edward L. Coman
Mr. Jonathan F. Comstock
Mrs. W. A. H. Comstock
Mr. Walter J. Comstock
Mr. William P. Comstock
Mr. Charles D. Cook
Mrs. Charles D. Cook
Mr. Albert B. Coulters
Mr. Ernest S. Craig
Prof. Verner W. Crane
Mr. Frank H. Cranston
Miss Mary E. H. Cranston
George H. Crooker, M.D.
Mr. Harry Parsons Cross
Frank Anthony Cummings, M.D.
Mrs. Frank Anthony Cummings
Prof. S. Foster Damon
Murray S. Danforth, M.D.
Mrs. Murray S. Danforth
Miss Edith R. Danielson
Mr. William C. Dart
Mr. Foster B. Davis
Miss Mary Elliott Davis
Mrs. R. C. Davis
Mr. Charles J. Davol
Mr. Herbert R. Dean
Mrs. Thomas Hart deCoudres
Prof. Edmund B. Delabarre
Miss Alice S. Dexter
Miss Eunice W. Dexter
Mr. Henry C. Dexter
Miss Louise Diman
Mr. Fred Morton Dixon, Jr.
Mrs. Harriet M. F. Dixon
Mr. Michael F. Dooley
Mr. Louis W. Downes
Mrs. Louis W. Downes
Mr. Robert T. Downs
Mr. Charles L. Drown
Mr. David Duncan
Miss Margarethe L. Dwight
Mr. H. Anthony Dyer
Mr. William Allan Dyer
Mr. Charles G. Easton
Mr. Frederick W. Easton
Mr. Alfred U. Eddy
Mr. Cyrus T. Eddy
Miss Isabel Eddy

Mr. William Holden Eddy	Mr. Eugene S. Graves
Miss Harriet C. Edmonds	Mrs. Eugene S. Graves
Miss Edith Edwards	Mr. Theodore Francis Green
Mr. Walter Angell Edwards	Mr. Edward Aborn Greene
Mr. James Elgar	Miss Esther F. Greene
Mr. William Ely	Mrs. Joseph Warren Greene
Mr. Frank W. Emerson	Mr. Thomas C. Greene
Mr. Ralph C. Estes	Mr. Ralph M. Greenlaw
Mr. William Wood Estes	Mr. William B. Greenough
Mr. Walter F. Farrell	Mr. Russell Grinnell
Mr. Henry A. Fifield	Mr. E. Tudor Gross
Mrs. Irving Fisher	Hon. J. Jerome Hahn
Mr. Augustus H. Fiske	Mr. John W. Haley
Mrs. Charles Fletcher	Mr. Ellery A. Hall
Mr. Elliot Flint	Miss Annette M. Ham
Hon. William S. Flynn	Mrs. Livingston Ham
Mr. Charles S. Foster	Mrs. Albert G. Harkness
Mr. John R. P. Foster	Mr. Gilbert A. Harrington
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The New England Flag

By HOWARD M. CHAPIN

The first so-called New England flag was a red flag having a white canton in the upper corner near the staff.¹ It was in use from 1636 to 1686 and differed from the contemporary English red ensign which carried a red cross in the white canton. Although this flag with the plain white canton is generally called the New England flag, it may in reality have been merely a Massachusetts Bay colony flag, for no evidence has been produced proving that the flag was ever used by any other of the New England colonies.

The second so-called New England flag was a white flag with a red cross on which in gold appeared the King's initials, I. R. in script surmounted by a crown. This flag is illustrated in Samuel G. Arnold's "History of Rhode Island."² A contemporary drawing of this flag in colors is preserved in London. Captain Byron McCandless, U. S. N., the leading American authority on flags, called my attention to the fact that this flag had gold fringe and that there were tassels on the staff and that in design it was similar to other flags carried by the King's soldiers.³ There is nothing in the design of this flag that is distinctive of New England. McCandless concludes that it was not the territorial flag of New England, but merely the design for the colors to be made for the use of the King's two companies of foot soldiers in New England, which were au-

¹An illustration of this flag, together with a reprint of the documentary evidence in regard to its use, is included in "Roger Williams and the King's Colors" by Howard M. Chapin. Published by the Society of Colonial Wars in Rhode Island, Providence, 1928.

²I, op. p. 496.

³Roger Williams and the King's Colors p. 24.

thorized at this time, 1686. The sketch of this flag, which was painted in 1686, is inscribed "New England Colours", a phrase which might mean *the New England territorial colors*, as has been believed for over half a century, or which might equally as well mean that the design was *for colors to be sent to New England*, or *colors for the New England soldiers*.

The third so-called New England flag is often described as the *pine tree flag*. If the flag with the plain white canton was really the flag of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, as is quite possible, and if the so-called New England Colours of 1686 was merely the design for the flag to be carried by the King's soldiers in New England, as seems highly probably, then the *tree flag* is the first real flag distinctive of New England.

This tree flag appears under various forms. The earliest reference to it was discovered by W. G. Perrin, Esq., the leading British authority on flags, in Lieutenant Graydon's manuscript flag book⁴ in the Pepysian Library at Magdalene College, Cambridge. The book is dated 1686 and the flag is illustrated in color, presumably drawn and painted by Lieutenant Graydon himself in the year 1686.

The flag is a white flag with a red cross (the St. George flag) with an oak tree in the first canton or quarter. The oak tree is green, outlined in black and powdered with gold dots. The flag is entitled "New England" and as it is placed beside the English merchant jack which it closely resembles, it seems safe to assume that it was the New England tree flag in its jack form. The black outline and the gold dots were presumably not essential to the design, but were doubtless the embellishments of some artistically inclined flag-maker, or possibly of Graydon himself. The fact that an *oak tree* and not a *pine tree* was used is noteworthy.

⁴"Insignia Navalia by Lt. Gradon, 1686", p. 19.

The pine tree shillings of colonial Massachusetts have been so famous that the fact that the willow tree and the oak tree also appeared on the early coins of the colony of Massachusetts Bay has to a great extent been forgotten. George C. Arnold⁵ lists five denominations of oak tree currency, four of pine tree and two of willow tree. Dr. Malcolm Storer, in a still more recent study of the subject,⁶ states that the oak tree was used on at least nine varieties of dies. He points out the fact that the date on a particular coin is not the date of issue, and that pine tree shillings, issued up to the time the mint was abolished about 1688, still bore the date 1652. He concludes that the willow tree series was minted first and that the device was changed to an oak tree in 1662.

The tree, whether willow, oak, or pine, was one of the devices commonly used in Massachusetts Bay as symbolic of that colony, and as Massachusetts Bay dominated New England commercially, its devices often came to be considered, especially overseas, as symbolic of New England as a conscious geographic, even if not a legal political entity.

Felt, in his history of Massachusetts currency,⁷ relates the following anecdote in regard to the oak tree shilling.

"Relative to our own specie, an interesting turn was given by Thomas Temple—a warm friend of New England and Governor of Nova Scotia—in conversation with His Majesty, Charles II. Being introduced to the King, while on a visit to London, he was permitted to kiss his hand. This sovereign discoursed with him on the state of affairs in Massachusetts, and discovered great warmth of

⁵Numismatic Guide. Providence, 1914, 12th edition.

⁶Old-Time New England, October, 1929.

⁷Felt, pp. 38-39. Preble, p. 190, gives a variant story, crediting the remarks to Sir Charles Temple. Storer in "Old Time New England" gives a third variety of the anecdote.

feeling against them. Among other things, he said, that they had invaded his right by coining money. Governor Temple told him, that the colonists thought it no crime to make money for their own use. In course of the interview, Mr. Temple took some of our coin from his pocket and presented it to the king. Seeing a tree on one of the pieces, Charles inquired what sort of a tree that was. The immediate reply was, it was the royal oak, which preserved his majesty's life. Such an answer brought the king to good humor, and induced him to hear the pleas which the governor made in favor of our colony. It is presumed from the character of Mr. Temple, that on this occasion he intended no deceit, but a pleasant, figurative allusion to a remarkable preservation of his majesty."

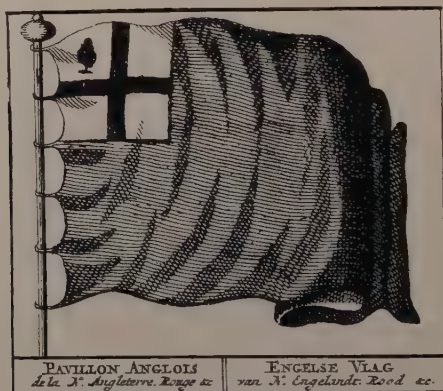
It seems probable that the original idea was to have on the coins a tree symbolic of the forests with their potential resources and that any tree⁸ was therefore considered satisfactory. Subsequently at a much later date more *pine tree* coins were minted and circulated, so that the name *pine tree shilling* came into use. It will be remembered that at a later date the codfish was used in Massachusetts as symbolic of the importance of that industry.

The next reference to the New England flag seems to be in "Le Neptune Francois,"⁹ published at Amsterdam by Pieter Mortier in 1693. It is shown in colors as a blue flag with a white canton containing the red cross of St. George, with a tree in the first quarter. The tree resembles a pine tree more than an oak tree and presumably was green on the flag. The illustration is entitled "Pavillon Anglois de la N. Angleterre. Rouge. &c. Engelse Vlag van N. Enge-

⁸The act of the Massachusetts General Court of October 19, 1652, specifies a *tree*, but does not specify the sort of tree.

⁹Preble, p. 189, apparently refers to this book. A copy of this edition is in the Library of Congress. There is a 1703 edition with flag sheets struck from the same plates.

landt. Rood. &c." The tincture lines also show the color of the field of the flag to be blue, but the description in the text after the name of the flag would seem to indicate that the field was red. The flags are hand colored and some



THE NEW ENGLAND FLAG AS SHOWN IN "LE NEPTUNE FRANCOIS," 1693

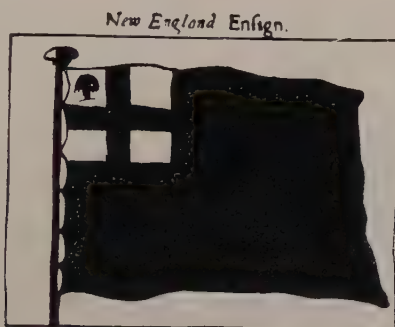
From copy owned by William Davis Miller.



THE NEW ENGLAND TREE FLAG AS SHOWN IN ANOTHER COPY
OF "LE NEPTUNE FRANCOIS," 1693

In this copy the flag is so heavily painted that the tincture lines do not show and owing to careless brush work the tree resembles a globe.

copies are shown with red field, white canton, red cross and green tree.¹⁰



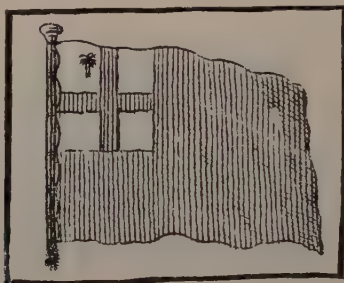
FROM "THE PRESENT STATE OF THE UNIVERSE," 1701
In the Admiralty Library, London

The first English book that contains an illustration of the tree flag is John Beaumont's "The Present State of the Universe,"¹¹ wherein the flag appears in colors as a red flag with a white canton having a red cross, with a green oak tree in the first quarter. The oak tree is outlined in black, doubtless an unessential detail, and the flag is entitled "New England Ensign." The appearance of the *oak* tree in the drawing of 1686 and also in the printed illus-

¹⁰Copy of 1693 edition in New York Historical Society Library.

¹¹Anonymous. The 1694 edition is in the British Museum and does not contain the flag plate which appears in the 1701 edition. The 1701 (3d edit), is in the Library of Congress and in the Admiralty Library, London. The 1704 (fourth edition) is in the Library of Congress. The flag may have been printed in the second edition. One reason for believing that the flag plate appeared in the second edition is that Drake (Hist. of Boston, p. 300) used an illustration of the New England flag which seems to be a simulation of the one printed in "The Present State of the Universe" and states that it is "exactly copied" from an "English work published before 1700". He adds "we find a *tree* in the colors then in use no more representing a *pine* than it does a *cabbage*". There was in fact no intention of representing a pine tree in this flag.

tration of 1701 is significant, especially as these two drawings are evidently from different sources.



THE NEW ENGLAND FLAG AS SHOWN IN "THE DOMINION OF THE SEAS," 1705

From copy owned by Capt. Byron McCandless, U. S. N.

The next English book that contains an illustration of the New England tree flag seems to be "A General Treatise of the Dominion of the Sea and a Complete Body of the Sea Laws," London, 1705. It is anonymous but ascribed to Alexander Justice.¹² The "New England Ensign" is shown with a red field, a red cross in a white canton, and with a very crudely drawn tree in the first canton of the cross. The color of the tree is not indicated but the other colors are indicated by tincture lines. The tree itself looks more like a palm tree than a pine tree, although it might have been intended to represent an oak or a willow.

How extensively the *tree flag* was used in New Eng-

¹²Anonymous, but ascribed to Justice. The earliest edition we have located is that of 1705, copies of which are in the British Museum, in the Admiralty Library, London, and in the Library of Congress. Copies of the third edition (issued after 1707, probably about 1710) are in the British Museum and in the Admiralty Library. McCandless' copy of this edition contains a manuscript note to the effect that the work was by Welwod and was first issued in 1696, and reprinted in 1705. This note may be in error. There is a copy in the library of William Davis Miller.

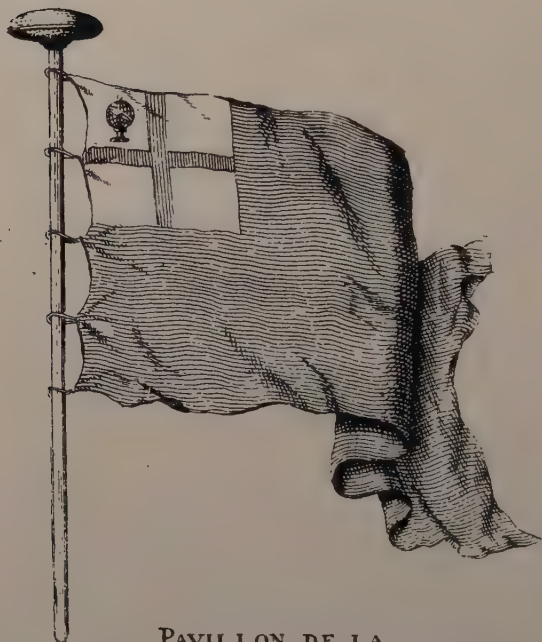
land, and on New England ships, must remain a matter of conjecture, but it seems safe to assume that the *tree flag* in its jack form was used on New England ships, particularly in the reign of James II, and that the *tree flag* in its ensign form was used at least as early as the reign of William III.

The first dated reference to the globe flag seems to be in the "Schouw-Park aller Scheeps-Vlaggen" or "Tableau des Pavillons de Mer," which was published by Pieter Schenck at Amsterdam in 1711.¹³ The New England flag is shown hand colored and with the colors also shown by tincture lines, as a blue flag, having a white canton with a red cross and with *a globe on a standard* in the first quarter of the canton. The globe is outlined in black, but no color is specified. No reference to this globe flag has been found in any contemporary English or American writings, and the fact that this first reference to it is found in a flag sheet printed in Holland, suggests the interesting possibility that the globe may have been a mistake on the part of some French or Dutch flag artist, or observer. The shape of the *tree* as drawn in the French Neptune and by Beaumont, resembles in general the shape of a *globe on a standard*, and an observer or artist copying the design from a fluttering flag or from confused notes might easily have made such a mistake.

In the year 1718 D. Mortier published at Amsterdam a book entitled "Les Pavillons ou Bannieres. . ." ¹⁴ In this volume the New England flag is described as the "Pavillon de la Nouvelle Angleterre en Amerique" and is illustrated with the colors shown by tincture lines.

¹³There is a copy in the library of William Davis Miller.

¹⁴These pages are also included in a larger volume entitled "L'Art de Batir. . ." which was issued in 1718. A copy is in the Admiralty Library. There is a copy of the 1719 edition of "L'Art de Batir" in the John Hay Library in Providence.



PAVILLON DE LA
NOUVELLE ANGLETERRE en AMERIQUE

From "L'Art de Batir . . . ," published by D. Mortier in 1719.

There is a copy in the library of William Davis Miller and in John Hay Library, Brown University, Providence.

The fact that this *globe flag* is not shown in any English or American books printed in the colonial period and that its first appearance in an English publication is in 1783 in Carrington Bowles'¹⁵ book, wherein it appears in colors, being colored as in Mortier's book, with the globe outlined in black and uncolored, and with the title "Nouve Angleterre" is significant. As the book is printed in English, the French title of this illustration indicates that this flag design was drawn from some French book.

But to return to Mortier, we find that the editor of that

¹⁵In the Admiralty Library, London.

book undertook to explain the significance of the *globe* in the New England flag. An explanatory note reads:

“Pavillon de la *Nouvelle Angleterre en Amerique*. Il est bleu au franc quartier d’argent, écartelé d’une Croix rouge, ayant au premier quartier une Sphere Celeste, faisant allusion a l’*Amerique*, qu’on nomme communement le *Nouveau Monde*.” This flag appears in the “Table des Pavillons” which was issued by Covens and Mortier at Amsterdam,¹⁶ and which though ascribed to about 1720 was probably published before 1711.

There seems to be little contemporary evidence in regard to the use of the New England tree flag after the reign of William III. The appearance of the flag in later editions of the “Neptune Francois”, “The Dominion of the Seas”, and “The Present State of the Universe”, does not of course signify that the flag was still in use at the time of the later editions, but merely that it was thought to be in use at the time of the edition in which the illustration first appeared. The appearance of the globe flag in the 1711 “Schauw-Park” and in the *L’Art de Batir* of 1718 is of practically no value as evidence in regard to the actual usage of the New England flag, unless the fact that the globe flag of 1711 was an erroneous attempt to reproduce the tree flag of 1693, might be taken as evidence that the New England flag had become so uncommon that its device was practically unknown in Holland in 1711. From this it might be argued with a fair amount of probability that the New England tree flag fell out of use as a maritime flag in or before the reign of Anne. Its use as an ensign and as a jack apparently was made illegal by the flag act of 1707.

It probably persisted in one or more forms as a distinguishing regimental (or more properly perhaps a company) flag in New England, but such use would naturally

¹⁶Copy in the library of William Davis Miller and in the Library of Congress.

not be known abroad at that time. The reason for believing that it continued to be used by some New England militia is because the *pine tree blue ensign* (that is the pine tree flag with the blue field such as was illustrated in the 1693 "Neptune Francois" is alleged to have been carried by Massachusetts soldiers at the Battle of Bunker Hill in 1775.

The first condition of the Covens and Mortier flag sheet was copied by a German publisher, and in this German edition¹⁷ the vertical or longitudinal lines on the globe were omitted, leaving only the horizontal or latitudinal lines. These horizontal lines might be mistaken for blue tincture lines and indeed were so mistaken in at least one case in another German reprint, and the globe was colored blue.¹⁸ In this case the blue paint was put on so carelessly and heavily that it is opaque and the engraved lines of the globe are concealed, leaving a blue blotch.

Bequest

Miss Emily J. Anthony, for many years a member of the Society, died on May 16. She left a bequest of \$4000 to the Society.

¹⁷Copy of *Flaggen Aller Seefahrenden Potenzen* von Iohann Baptist Homann in Nurnberg, owned by William Davis Miller.

¹⁸Copy of *Flaggen Aller Seefahrenden Potenzen* von Matthaus Seutter in Augsburg, about 1780, owned by William Davis Miller.

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